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(54) **ORGANIC LIGHT EMITTING DISPLAY  
DEVICE AND METHOD OF  
MANUFACTURING THE SAME**

(58) **Field of Classification Search**  
USPC ..... 257/88, 89; 438/28, 34; 313/500, 505,  
313/506  
See application file for complete search history.

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U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

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**H01J 63/04** (2006.01)  
**H01L 33/00** (2010.01)  
**H01L 21/00** (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**

USPC ..... 313/500; 313/505; 313/506; 257/88;  
257/89; 438/28; 438/34

(57) **ABSTRACT**

An organic light emitting display device includes a substrate in which a first pixel area and a second pixel area different from each other are defined, a first electrode, a pixel defining layer, a common layer, a first surface processing layer, a second surface processing layer, a first liquid solution layer, a second liquid solution layer, and a second electrode. The first surface processing layer has a first width and is correspondingly included in the first pixel area. The second surface processing layer has a second width different from the first width and is correspondingly included in the second pixel area. The first liquid solution layer has the first width, and the second liquid solution layer has the second width. The first and second liquid solution layers have the same volume and different thicknesses.

**18 Claims, 4 Drawing Sheets**

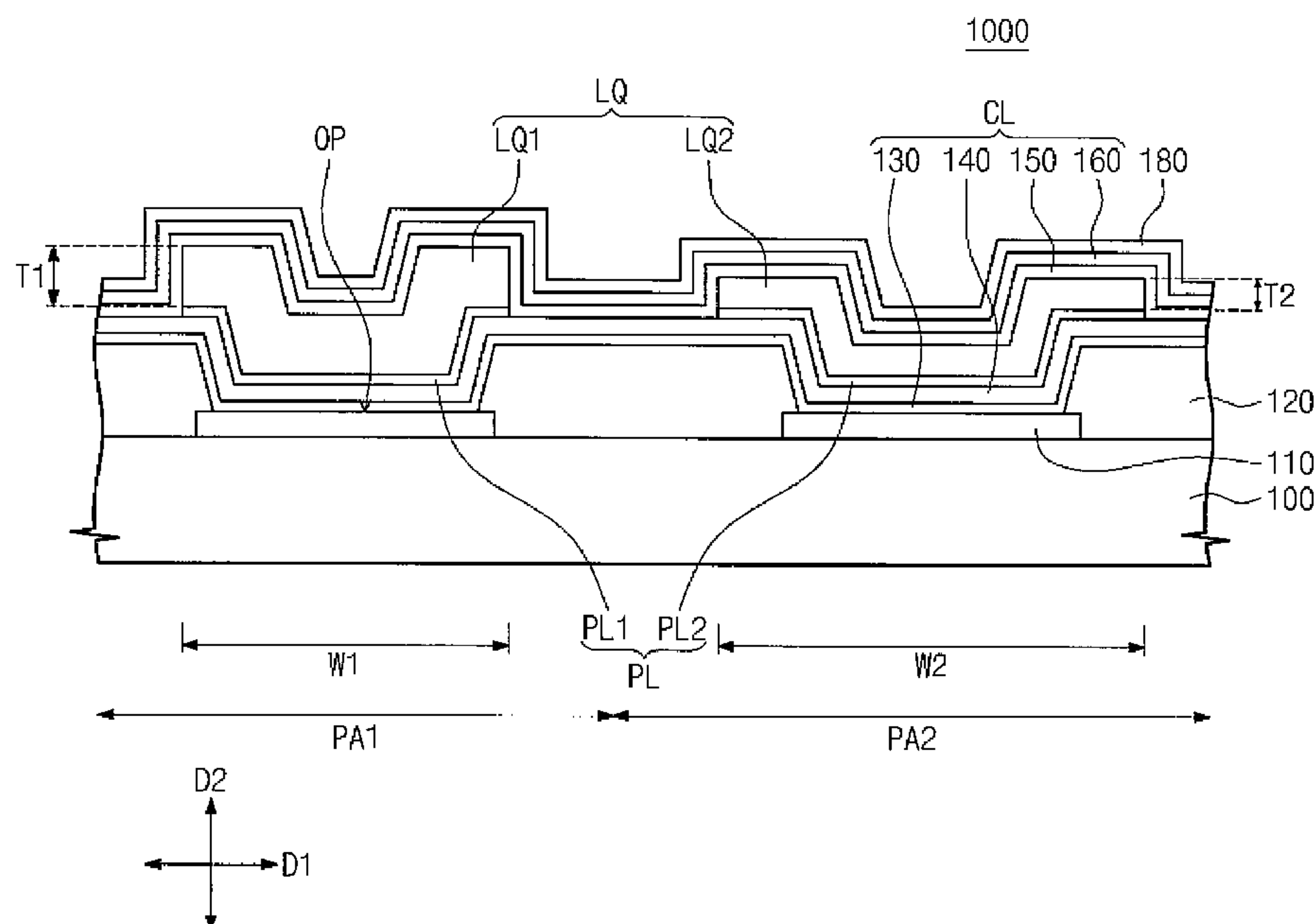


Fig. 1

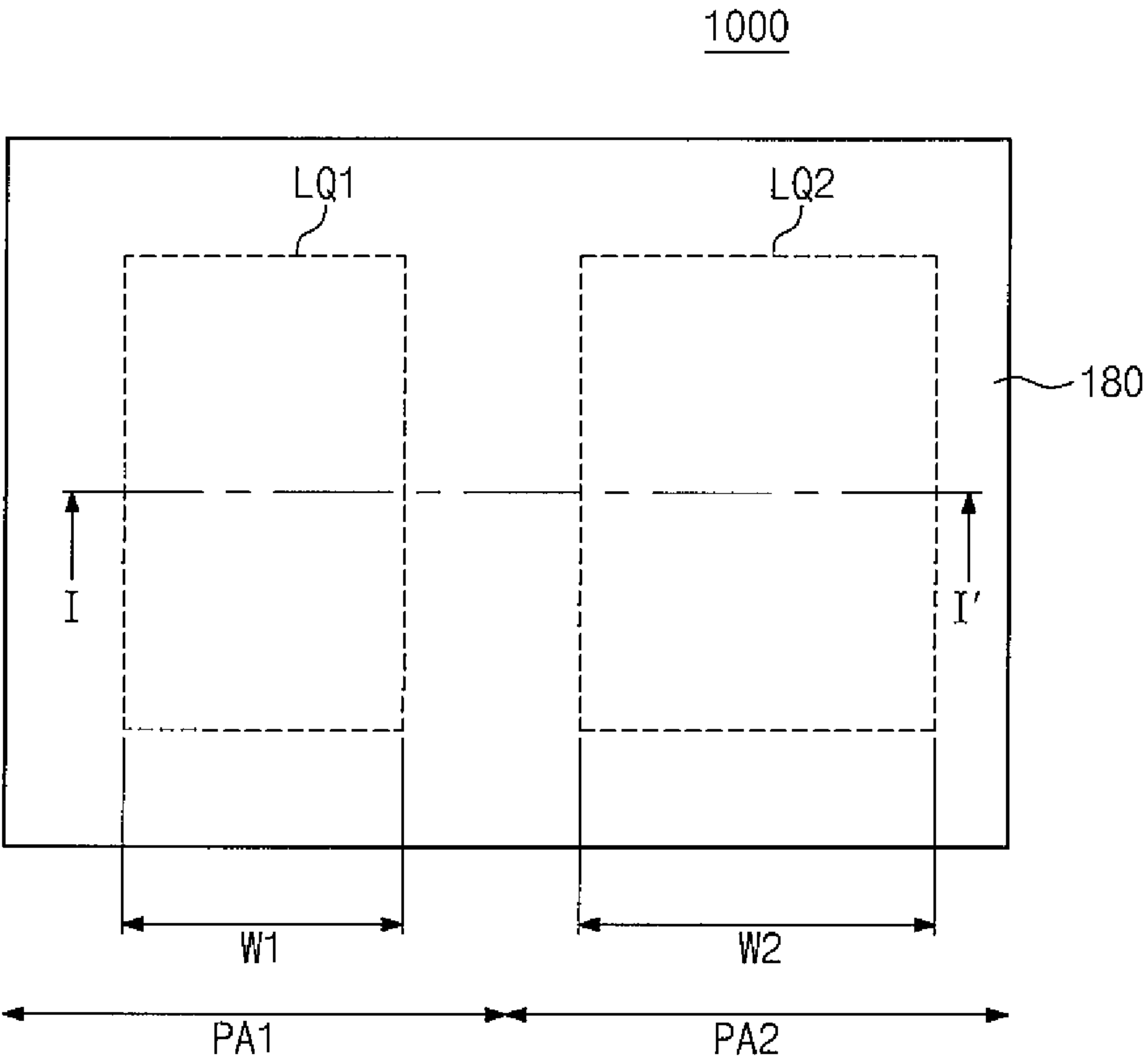


Fig. 2

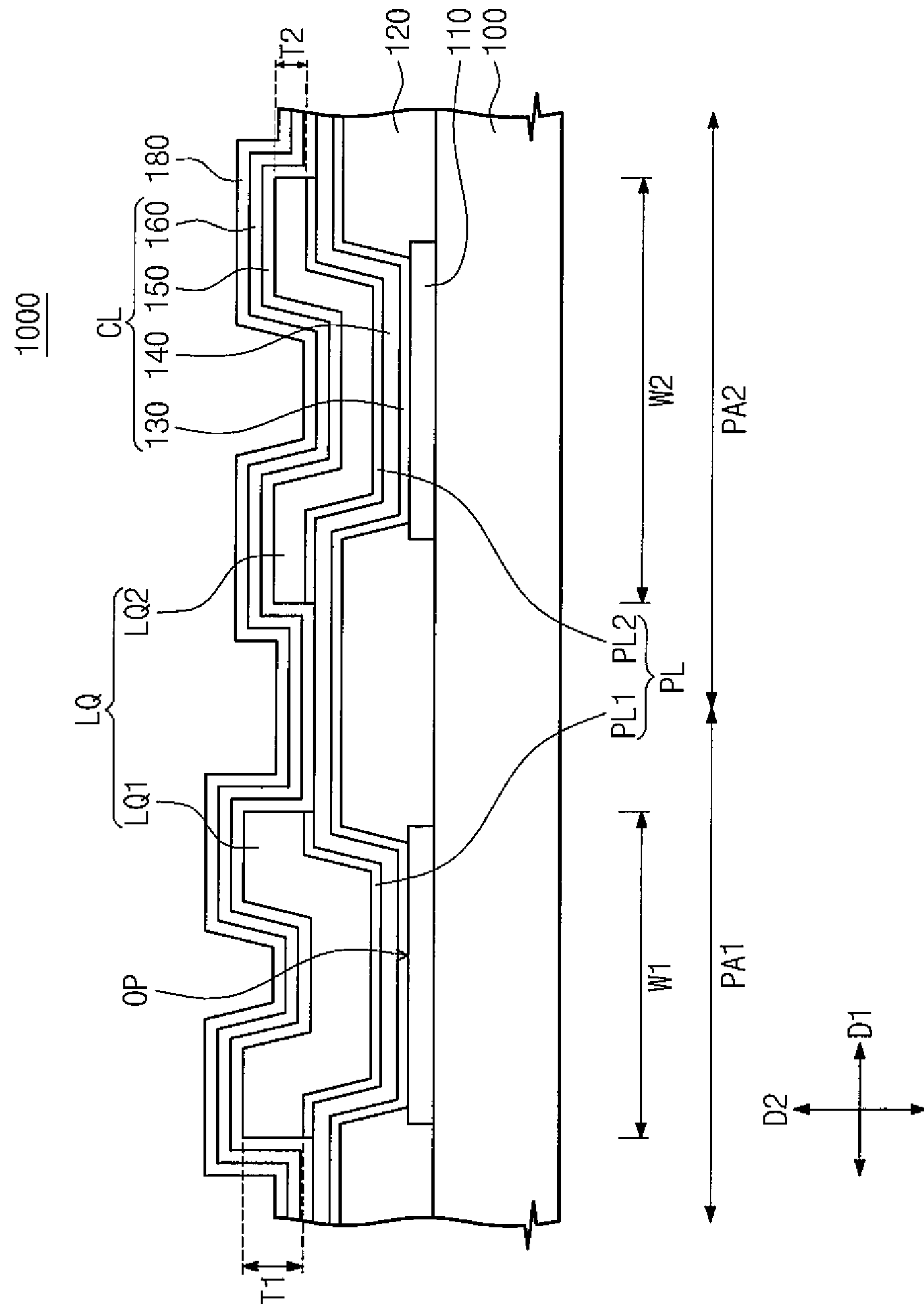
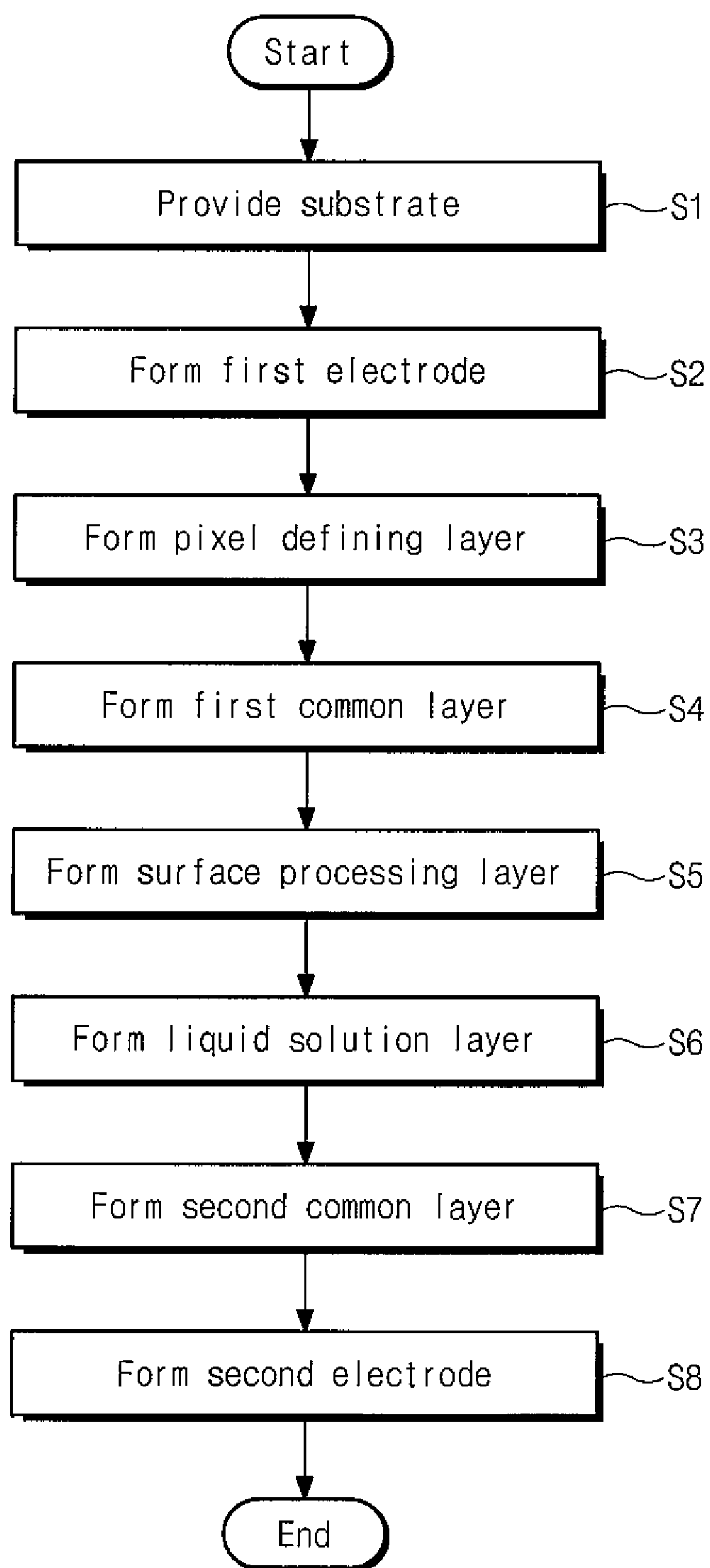




Fig. 4





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# ORGANIC LIGHT EMITTING DISPLAY DEVICE AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURING THE SAME

## CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application claims priority to and the benefit of Korean Patent Application No. 10-2012-0111352, filed on Oct. 8, 2012, the entire content of which is hereby incorporated by reference.

## BACKGROUND

The following description relates to organic light emitting display devices and methods of manufacturing the same, and more particularly, to an organic light emitting display device using a solution process and a method of manufacturing the same.

Since an organic light emitting display device has a self-light emitting characteristic and does not need a separate light source, it can be miniaturized and be light in weight. Also, since an organic light emitting display device has characteristics of low power consumption, high brightness and high reaction velocity, it has been gaining attention as a next generation display device.

An organic light emitting display device includes an anode electrode, an organic light emitting layer and a cathode electrode. In the organic light emitting display device, a hole from the anode electrode and an electron from the cathode electrode are combined with each other in the organic light emitting layer to form an exciton and light is emitted by an energy generated when the exciton drops from an excited state to a ground state.

The organic light emitting layer may be formed by red, green and blue organic light emitting layers. Because the red, green and blue organic light emitting layers have different light emitting efficiencies from one another, light emitting efficiencies of the red, green and blue organic light emitting layers can be controlled to be the same by forming thicknesses of the red, green and blue organic light emitting layers to be different from one another or by forming protection layers, which correspond to the red, green and blue organic light emitting layers respectively with different thicknesses.

The organic light emitting layer or a common layer may be formed using a solution process. To form a desired thickness of the organic light emitting layer or the common layer differently, there is a problem that a size of the nozzle through which a solution is sprayed has to be changed or a process condition has to be changed.

## SUMMARY

An aspect of an embodiment of the present invention is directed toward an organic light emitting display device.

In one embodiment, the organic light emitting display device includes a substrate in which a first pixel area and a second pixel area different from each other are defined; a first electrode disposed on the substrate and included in each of the first and second pixel areas; a pixel defining layer which is disposed on the substrate and the first electrode and includes an opening exposing a part of the first electrode; a common layer formed on an entire surface of the substrate; a surface processing layer which is formed on the substrate and covers the opening and a part of the pixel defining layer connected to the opening; a first liquid solution layer disposed on the surface processing layer and included in the first pixel area; a

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second liquid solution layer disposed on the surface processing layer and included in the second pixel area; and a second electrode formed on the common layer, the first liquid solution layer and the second liquid solution layer. The first liquid solution layer and the second liquid solution layer have the same volume and different thicknesses.

An aspect of an embodiment of the present invention is directed toward a method of manufacturing an organic light emitting display device.

In one embodiment, the method includes providing a substrate in which a first pixel area and a second pixel area different from each other are defined; forming a first electrode at each of the first pixel area and the second pixel area on the substrate; forming a pixel defining layer on the substrate to expose a part of the first electrode; forming a common layer on an entire surface of the substrate; forming a surface processing layer at each of the first pixel area and the second pixel area on the substrate; forming a first liquid solution layer having a first thickness by spraying a first solution having a first volume to the first pixel area; and forming a second liquid solution layer having a second thickness different from the first thickness by spraying a second solution having a first volume to the second pixel area.

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE FIGURES

Embodiments of the present invention (inventive concept) will be described below in more detail with reference to the accompanying drawings. The embodiments of the inventive concept may, however, be embodied in different forms and should not be constructed as limited to the embodiments set forth herein. Rather, these embodiments are provided so that this disclosure will be thorough and complete, and will fully convey the scope of the inventive concept to those skilled in the art. Like numbers refer to like elements throughout.

FIG. 1 is a top plan view of an organic light emitting display device in accordance with some embodiments of the inventive concept.

FIG. 2 is a cross sectional view taken along the line I-I' of FIG. 1.

FIG. 3 is a cross sectional view illustrating an organic light emitting display device in accordance with some other embodiments of the inventive concept.

FIG. 4 is a flow chart illustrating a method of manufacturing an organic light emitting display device in accordance with some embodiments of the inventive concept.

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE EMBODIMENTS

Embodiments of inventive concepts will be described more fully hereinafter with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which embodiments of the present invention are shown. This inventive concept may, however, be embodied in many different forms and should not be construed as limited to the embodiments set forth herein. Rather, these embodiments are provided so that this disclosure will be thorough and complete, and will fully convey the scope of the inventive concept to those skilled in the art. In the drawings, the size and relative sizes of layers and regions may be exaggerated for clarity. Like numbers refer to like elements throughout.

FIG. 1 is a top plan view of an organic light emitting display device in accordance with some embodiments of the inventive concept. FIG. 2 is a cross sectional view taken along the line I-I' of FIG. 1.

Referring to FIGS. 1 and 2, the organic light emitting display device 1000 may include a substrate 100, a first elec-



trode **110**, a pixel defining layer **120**, a common layer CL, a surface processing layer PL, a liquid solution layer LQ, and a second electrode **180**. The common layer CL may include a hole injection layer **130**, a hole transport layer **140**, an electron transport layer **150** and an electron injection layer **160**.

A first pixel area PA1 and a second pixel area PA2, which are different from each other, may be defined on the substrate **100**. Lights output from the first and second pixel areas PA1 and PA2 may be visible lights having different colors from each other.

The substrate **100** may be a transparent glass or a transparent plastic.

Although not illustrated in the drawings, the organic light emitting display device **1000** may further include a thin film transistor formed in each of the first and second pixel areas PA1 and PA2 on the substrate **100**. An output stage of the thin film transistor is connected to the first electrode **110** to apply a data voltage provided from an input stage of the thin film transistor to the first electrode **110**.

The first electrode **110** is disposed on the substrate **100** and may be included in each of the first and second pixel areas PA1 and PA2.

The first electrode **110** may be a positive pole (polarity) electrode, which is a hole injection electrode. The first electrode **110** may be formed of a material having a relatively high work function such as indium tin oxide (ITO), indium zinc oxide (IZO), tin oxide (SnO<sub>2</sub>), zinc oxide (ZnO), etc., and may include a conductive metal such as aluminum (Al), magnesium (Mg), gold (Au), etc., as the need arises.

The pixel defining layer **120** is disposed on the substrate **100** and the first electrode **110** and may include an opening OP exposing a part of the first electrode **110**. The pixel defining layer **120** may be formed to cover an edge of the first electrode **110** when viewed from a top plan view.

The pixel defining layer **120** is formed from an insulating material and performs a function of separating the first pixel area PA1 and the second pixel area PA2 from each other.

The common layer CL is a layer which the first and second pixel areas PA1 and PA2 share. Thus, the common layer CL may be formed on an entire surface of the substrate **100**.

The hole injection layer **130** performs a function of making a hole easily be released from the first electrode **110**. The hole injection layer **130** may be formed on an entire surface of the first electrode **110** and on an entire surface of the pixel defining layer **120**. The hole injection layer **130** may have the same thickness on the first pixel area PA1 and the second pixel area PA2.

The hole transport layer **140** performs a function of transporting a hole provided from the hole injection layer **130** to the liquid solution LQ. The hole transport layer **140** may be formed on an entire surface of the hole injection layer **130**. The hole transport layer **140** may have the same thickness on the first pixel area PA1 and the second pixel area PA2.

The surface processing layer PL is disposed to cover the opening OP and a part of the pixel defining layer **120** connected to the opening OP when viewed from a top plan view. In FIG. 2, as an illustration, it is illustrated that the surface processing layer PL is disposed on the hole transport layer **140**.

The surface processing layer PL may include a first surface processing layer

PL1 and a second surface processing layer PL2. The first surface processing layer PL1 is formed on the first pixel area PA1 to have a first width W1 in a first direction D1. The second surface processing layer PL2 is formed on the second pixel area PA2 to have a second width W2 in the first direction

D1. In FIG. 2, as an illustration, it is illustrated that the first width W1 is smaller than the second width W2.

The first surface processing layer PL1 and the second surface processing layer PL2 may have the same thickness.

The first surface processing layer PL1 and the second surface processing layer PL2 may be formed of lyotropic material with respect to a first liquid solution LQ1 and a second liquid solution layer LQ2 respectively. That is, the first surface processing layer PL1 and the second surface processing layer PL2 may be formed of lyotropic material having a high affinity with a solution for forming the liquid solution layer LQ. For example, if the solution is a hydrophilic solution, the first surface processing layer PL1 and the second surface processing layer PL2 may be formed of hydrophilic material.

The first surface processing layer PL1 and the second surface processing layer PL2 may be formed by using a plasma processing or coating a lyotropic material.

The liquid solution layer LQ may be formed through a liquid solution process. The liquid solution layer LQ may be formed by preparing a solution in which various solutes are dissolved in a solvent having volatility, and then spraying and drying the solution.

The liquid solution layer LQ may be an organic light emitting layer that actually emits a light. Thus, the solution may include an organic light emitting material.

The liquid solution layer LQ may include the first liquid solution layer LQ1 and the second liquid solution layer LQ2.

The first liquid solution layer LQ1 is correspondingly disposed on the first surface processing layer PL1 and may have the first width W1 in the first direction D1.

The second liquid solution layer LQ2 is correspondingly disposed on the second surface processing layer PL2 and may have the second width W2 in the first direction D1. The first width W1 is different from the second width W2.

Also, the first liquid solution layer LQ1 may have a first thickness T1 in a second direction D2, and the second liquid solution layer LQ2 may have a second thickness T4 in the second direction D2.

A volume of the first liquid solution layer LQ1 and a volume of the second liquid solution layer LQ2 may be the same. Solutions for forming the first and second liquid solution layers LQ1 and LQ2 are equally sprayed on the first surface processing layer PL1 and the second surface processing layer PL2 respectively. The sprayed solutions exist only on the first and second surface processing layers PL1 and PL2 which are lyotropic materials and do not exist on the area on which the first and second surface processing layers PL1 and PL2 are not formed. Since the first width W1 and the second width W2 are different from each other, a solid solute (an organic light emitting material) which remains after volatilizing the sprayed solutions has different thicknesses on the first pixel area PA1 and the second pixel area PA2 respectively.

To precisely control a location at which the liquid solution layer LQ is formed, the organic light emitting display device **1000** may form the hole injection layer **140** using a liquid-repellent material or may further include a liquid-repellent material formed between the first and second surface processing layers PL1 and PL2.

The electron transport layer **150** performs a function of transporting an electron provided from the electron injection layer **160** to the liquid solution layer LQ. The electron transport layer **150** may be formed on an entire surface of the substrate **100** on which the liquid solution layer LQ is formed. The electron transport layer **150** may have the same thickness on the first pixel area PA1 and the second pixel area PA2.



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The electron injection layer **160** performs a function of making an electron easily be released from the second electrode **180**. The electron injection layer **160** may be formed on an entire surface of the electron transport layer **150**. The electron injection layer **160** may have the same thickness on the first pixel area **PA1** and the second pixel area **PA2**.

The second electrode **180** may be disposed on an entire surface of the electron injection layer **160**.

The second electrode **180** may be a negative pole (polarity) electrode which is an electron injection electrode. The second electrode **180** may be formed of metal, alloy and electroconductive compounds that have a relatively low work function, and combinations thereof. The second electrode **180** may be formed of lithium (Li), magnesium (Mg), aluminum (Al), aluminum-lithium (Al—Li), magnesium-indium (Mg—In), magnesium-silver (Mg—Ag), indium tin oxide (ITO), indium zinc oxide (IZO), tin oxide (SnO<sub>2</sub>), zinc oxide (ZnO), etc.

According to the organic light emitting display device **1000** in accordance with some embodiments of the inventive concept, by forming the surface processing layers having different widths on the first pixel area **PA1** and the second pixel area **PA2** respectively, even if using the same amount of solutions, liquid solution layers having different thicknesses can be formed on the first pixel area **PA1** and the second pixel area **PA2** respectively. Thus, without changing a processing condition or a size of the nozzle for spraying a solution, liquid solution layers having different thicknesses can be formed and thereby a resonance condition according to a color of light being emitted at each pixel area can be realized.

The organic light emitting display device **1000** in accordance with some embodiments of the inventive concept has two pixel areas but it is not limited thereto. The organic light emitting display device **1000** may have three or more pixel areas. As an illustration, in the case that three different pixel areas from one another are defined on the substrate **100**, thicknesses of liquid solution layers formed at the three pixel areas are different from one another but their volumes may be the same. In one embodiment, lights emitted from the three pixel areas may be a red visible light, a green visible light and a blue visible light respectively.

FIG. **3** is a cross sectional view illustrating an organic light emitting display device **1100** in accordance with some other embodiments of the inventive concept. As compared with the organic light emitting display device **1000** in accordance with some embodiments, in the organic light emitting display device **1100** in accordance with some other embodiments, locations of the surface processing layer and liquid solution layer are different and functions of the liquid solution layer and the common layer are different.

Referring to FIG. **3**, the organic light emitting display device **1100** may include a substrate **100**, a first electrode **110**, a pixel defining layer **120**, a common layer **CL'**, a surface processing layer **PL'**, a liquid solution layer **LQ'**, and a second electrode **180**. The common layer **CL'** may include a hole transport layer **140**, an organic light emitting layer **170**, an electron transport layer **150**, and an electron injection layer **160**.

The pixel defining layer **120** is disposed on the substrate **100** and may include an opening **OP** exposing a part of the first electrode **110**.

The surface processing layer **PL'** is disposed to cover the opening **OP** and a part of the pixel defining layer **120** connected to the opening **OP** when viewed from a top plan view. In FIG. **3**, it is illustrated as an illustration that the surface processing layer **PL'** is disposed on the pixel defining layer **120**.

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The surface processing layer **PL'** includes a first surface processing layer **PL'1** and a second surface processing layer **PL'2**. The first surface processing layer **PL'1** is formed at the first pixel area **PA1** and may have a first width **W3** in a first direction **D1**. The second surface processing layer **PL'2** is formed at the second pixel area **PA2** and may have a second width **W4** in a first direction **D1**. In FIG. **3**, the first width **W3** is smaller than the second width **W4**.

The liquid solution layer **LQ'** is a hole injection and may be formed using a solution process.

The liquid solution layer **LQ'** may include a first liquid solution layer **LQ'1** and a second liquid solution layer **LQ'2**. The first liquid solution layer **LQ'1** is correspondingly disposed on the first surface processing layer **PL'1** and may have the first width **W3** in the first direction **D1**. Also, the first liquid solution layer **LQ'1** may have a first thickness **T3** in a second direction **D2**.

The second liquid solution layer **LQ'2** is correspondingly disposed on the second surface processing layer **PL'2** and may have the second width **W4** in the first direction **D1**. Also, the second liquid solution layer **LQ'2** may have a second thickness **T4** in the second direction **D2**.

According to the organic light emitting display device **1100**, the hole injection layer is formed through a solution process and the hole injection layers having different thicknesses may be formed on the first pixel area **PA1** and the second pixel area **PA2** respectively. Thus, the organic light emitting display device **1100** can obtain the same effect as the organic light emitting display device **1000**.

In organic light emitting display device **1100**, the hole injection layer is described to be the liquid solution layer but it is not limited thereto. The liquid solution layer may be at least one of the hole transport layer, the electron transport layer and the electron injection layer. In the case that the electron transport layer is the liquid solution layer, the surface processing layer is disposed on the organic light emitting layer, and the liquid solution layer is disposed between the surface processing layer and the electron injection layer.

In the case that the liquid solution layer is constituted by two or more layers, the surface processing layer may also be constituted by two or more layers.

FIG. **4** is a flow chart illustrating a method of manufacturing an organic light emitting display device in accordance with some embodiments of the inventive concept.

Referring to FIGS. **1**, **2** and **4**, a substrate **100** (in which a first pixel area **PA1** and a second pixel area **PA2** different from the first pixel area **PA1** are defined) is prepared (**S1**). In (**S1**) and according to one embodiment, the substrate **100** is in a state of before a first electrode **110** is formed. The substrate **100** may include a thin film transistor and a planarization layer, which is disposed on the thin film transistor and includes a contact hole exposing an output stage of the thin film transistor.

After that, the first electrode **110** is formed at the first pixel area **PA1** and the second pixel area **PA2** (**S2**) on the substrate **100**. The first electrode **110** may be formed by depositing a conductive layer on an entire surface of the substrate **100**, and then patterning the conductive layer.

A pixel defining layer **120** is formed on the substrate **100** on which the first electrode **110** is formed (**S3**). The pixel defining layer **120** may be formed by depositing an insulating material on an entire surface of the substrate **100**, and then patterning the insulating material. The pixel defining layer **120** is patterned to expose a part of the first electrode **110**.



After that, a first common layer is formed on an entire surface of the pixel defining layer **120** (S4). The first common layer may include a hole injection layer **130** and a hole transport layer **140**.

After that, a surface processing layer PL is formed on the first common layer (S5). The surface processing layer PL may be formed by forming a lyotropic material layer on the first common layer to have a uniform thickness, and then patterning the lyotropic material layer. At this time, the lyotropic material layer is patterned to have different first direction widths at the first pixel area PA1 and the second pixel area PA2 respectively and thereby a first surface processing layer PL1 and a second surface processing layer PL2 are formed.

After that, a liquid solution layer LQ is formed on the surface processing layer PL (S6). The liquid solution layer LQ may be formed using a solution process. The solution process may be one of a spin coating, an inkjet printing, a gravure printing, a roll to roll processing, a syringe injection, a dip coating, a spray coating, a relief printing, a lithography printing, a flexography printing and a screen printing.

A solution used in the solution process is equally sprayed on the first pixel area PA1 and the second pixel area PA2. A solution sprayed on the first pixel area PA1 may be defined as a first solution, and a solution sprayed on the second pixel area PA2 may be defined as a second solution.

The first and second solutions may be sprayed using a nozzle of the same size.

A first direction width of each of the first and second solutions is controlled by a first direction width of each of the first and second surface processing layers PL1 and PL2 which are the lyotropic material.

After that, when drying the first solution and the second solution, a solvent is evaporated and only solid solute remains. As a result, a first liquid solution layer LQ1 and a second liquid solution layer LQ2 are formed. The first and second liquid solution layers LQ1 and LQ2 have the same volume but have different second direction thicknesses due to a difference of the first direction widths.

After that, a second common layer is formed on an entire surface of the liquid solution layer LQ (S7). The second common layer may include an electron transport layer **150** and an electron injection layer **160**.

Finally, a second electrode **180** is formed on an entire surface of the second common layer (S8).

Although a few embodiments of the present general inventive concept have been shown and described, it will be appreciated by those skilled in the art that changes may be made in these embodiments without departing from the principles and spirit of the general inventive concept, the scope of which is defined in the appended claims and their equivalents. Therefore, the above-disclosed subject matter is to be considered illustrative, and not restrictive.

What is claimed is:

1. An organic light emitting display device comprising:

a substrate in which a first pixel area and a second pixel area different from each other are defined;

a first electrode on the substrate and included in each of the first and second pixel areas;

a pixel defining layer on the substrate and the first electrode and having an opening exposing a part of the first electrode;

a common layer on an entire surface of the substrate;

a surface processing layer on the substrate and covering the opening and a part of the pixel defining layer connected to the opening;

a first liquid solution layer on the surface processing layer and included in the first pixel area;

a second liquid solution layer on the surface processing layer and included in the second pixel area; and  
a second electrode on the common layer, the first liquid solution layer and the second liquid solution layer, wherein the first liquid solution layer and the second liquid solution layer have the same volume and different thicknesses.

2. The organic light emitting display device of claim 1, wherein the surface processing layer comprises:

a first surface processing layer which has a first width and is correspondingly included in the first pixel area; and  
a second surface processing layer which has a second width different from the first width and is correspondingly included in the second pixel area.

3. The organic light emitting display device of claim 2, wherein the first surface processing layer and the second surface processing layer are formed of lyotropic material with respect to the first liquid solution layer and the second liquid solution layer, respectively.

4. The organic light emitting display device of claim 2, wherein the first liquid solution layer and the second liquid solution layer are in contact with a top surface of the first surface processing layer and a top surface of the second surface processing layer, respectively.

5. The organic light emitting display device of claim 4, wherein the first liquid solution layer has a first width and the second liquid solution layer has a second width.

6. The organic light emitting display device of claim 5, wherein each of the first liquid solution layer and the second liquid solution layer comprises at least one of a hole injection layer on the pixel defining layer; a hole transport layer on the hole injection layer; an organic light emitting layer on the hole transport layer; an electron transport layer on the hole transport layer; and an electron injection layer on the hole transport layer.

7. The organic light emitting display device of claim 6, wherein in the case that each of the first liquid solution layer and the second liquid solution layer comprises one, two, three or four of the hole injection layer, the hole transport layer, the organic light emitting layer, the electron transport layer and the electron injection layer, the common layer comprises the rest.

8. The organic light emitting display device of claim 5, wherein each of the first liquid solution layer and the second liquid solution layer is an organic light emitting layer from which a light is emitted.

9. The organic light emitting display device of claim 8, wherein the common layer comprises:

a hole injection layer on the pixel defining layer;

a hole transport layer on the hole injection layer;

an electron transport layer on the hole transport layer; and  
an electron injection layer on the electron transport layer.

10. The organic light emitting display device of claim 9, wherein the surface processing layer, the first liquid solution layer and the second liquid solution layer are disposed between the hole transport layer and the electron transport layer.

11. A method of manufacturing an organic light emitting display device, the method comprising:

providing a substrate in which a first pixel area and a second pixel area different from each other are defined;  
forming a first electrode at each of the first pixel area and the second pixel area on the substrate;

forming a pixel defining layer on the substrate to expose a part of the first electrode;

forming a common layer on an entire surface of the substrate;



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forming a surface processing layer at each of the first pixel area and the second pixel area on the substrate;  
forming a first liquid solution layer having a first thickness by spraying a first solution having a first volume to the first pixel area; and

forming a second liquid solution layer having a second thickness different from the first thickness by spraying a second solution having the first volume to the second pixel area.

**12.** The method of claim **11**, wherein the forming of the surface processing layer comprises:

forming a lyotropic material layer with respect to the first solution and the second solution on the substrate to have a uniform thickness; and

forming a first surface processing layer and a second surface processing layer by patterning the lyotropic material layer to have different widths at the first pixel area and the second pixel area, respectively.

**13.** The method of claim **12**, wherein the forming of the first liquid solution layer comprises:

spraying the first solution to have the same width as the first surface processing layer; and

drying the first solution.

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**14.** The method of claim **12**, wherein the forming of the second liquid solution layer comprises:

spraying the second solution to have the same width as the second surface processing layer; and

drying the second solution.

**15.** The method of claim **11**, wherein the forming of the common layer comprises:

forming a hole injection layer on the pixel defining layer;

forming a hole transport layer on the hole injection layer;

forming an electron transport layer on the hole transport layer; and

forming an electron injection layer on the electron transport layer.

**16.** The method of claim **15**, wherein the surface processing layer, the first solution layer and the second solution layer are formed after the hole transport layer is formed and before the electron transport layer is formed.

**17.** The method of claim **11**, wherein the first solution and the second solution are sprayed using a nozzle of the same size.

**18.** The method of claim **11**, further comprising forming a second electrode on an entire surface of the substrate.

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